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SERIAL NUMBER	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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08/014,911 02/08/93 DAVIS

15444

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, K

C2M1/1205

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

THE WHITAKER CORP.
4550 NEW LINDEN HILL RD.
SUITE 450
WILMINGTON, DE 19808

3202

DATE MAILED:

12/05/94

This is a communication from the examiner in charge of your application.
COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

This application has been examined Responsive to communication filed on 9-15-94 This action is made final.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), -0- days from the date of this letter.
Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. 35 U.S.C. 133

Part I THE FOLLOWING ATTACHMENT(S) ARE PART OF THIS ACTION:

1. Notice of References Cited by Examiner, PTO-892.
2. Notice of Draftsman's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
3. Notice of Art Cited by Applicant, PTO-1449.
4. Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152.
5. Information on How to Effect Drawing Changes, PTO-1474..
6.

Part II SUMMARY OF ACTION

1. Claims 1 - 20 are pending in the application.

Of the above, claims _____ are withdrawn from consideration.

2. Claims _____ have been cancelled.

3. Claims _____ are allowed.

4. Claims 1-9, 11-19 are rejected.

5. Claims 10, 20 are objected to.

6. Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

7. This application has been filed with informal drawings under 37 C.F.R. 1.85 which are acceptable for examination purposes.

8. Formal drawings are required in response to this Office action.

9. The corrected or substitute drawings have been received on _____. Under 37 C.F.R. 1.84 these drawings are acceptable; not acceptable (see explanation or Notice of Draftsman's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948).

10. The proposed additional or substitute sheet(s) of drawings, filed on _____, has (have) been approved by the examiner; disapproved by the examiner (see explanation).

11. The proposed drawing correction, filed _____, has been approved; disapproved (see explanation).

12. Acknowledgement is made of the claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. 119. The certified copy has been received not been received been filed in parent application, serial no. _____; filed on _____.

13. Since this application appears to be in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

14. Other

EXAMINER'S ACTION

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1. Claims 1-4, 6-9, 11-14, and 16-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Roberts, Olsson or Buchter et al. in view of Asick et al.

It would have been obvious at the time applicant's invention was made to a person of ordinary skill in the art to provide ramp wiping surfaces on a mating end for each of the Prior Art connector housings (Roberts, Olsson or Buchter et al.) in view of Asick's teachings of front ramp wiping surfaces which are offset laterally from conductive contact surfaces 80. The ramp wiping surfaces as taught by Asick et al. would provide wiping for only outside edge portions of each contact of a mating connector for the prior art connector housings prior to contact engagement.

2. Claims 5 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over the references as applied to claims 1 and 11 above, and further in view of Yamamoto.

It also would have been obvious at the time applicant's invention was made to a person of ordinary skill in the art to provide power contacts in combination with signal contacts for the APA devices in view of Yamamoto's teachings of power and signal contacts in one connector housing. The use of "power" contacts in combination with signal contacts are old and well known in the art.

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3. Applicant's arguments filed 9/12/94 have been fully considered but they are not deemed to be persuasive.

Applicant argues that neither the Yamamoto pins nor the Yamamoto sockets has contact fingers on opposite side of an insulative divider. However, it is respectfully submitted that Yamamoto is not relied on to show such features. Such features are well known and shown by the primary references of record. To the contrary, Yamamoto is sued to show that the general concept of "power" contacts in combination with "signal" contacts inside a connector housing is old and well known as alleged in paper number 3. The citing of Yamamoto in paper no.5 is for satisfying Applicant's curiosity and doubtless that such feature is in fact old and well known.

Applicant also argues that in Asick the contact 80 extends past the cam profiles 78 and to a front edge of circuit board 60. However, it is respectfully submitted that such argument is unfounded. To the contrary, as clearly shown in figure 7 of Asick et al., it is the cam profiles 78 that extend past the contact 80 to a front edge of circuit board 60.

4. Upon further consideration.

Claims 10 and 20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

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5. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE TO THIS FINAL ACTION IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS ACTION. IN THE EVENT A FIRST RESPONSE IS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE MAILING DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION AND THE ADVISORY ACTION IS NOT MAILED UNTIL AFTER THE END OF THE THREE-MONTH SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD, THEN THE SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD WILL EXPIRE ON THE DATE THE ADVISORY ACTION IS MAILED, AND ANY EXTENSION FEE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) WILL BE CALCULATED FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THE ADVISORY ACTION. IN NO EVENT WILL THE STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE EXPIRE LATER THAN SIX MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Examiner Khiem Nguyen at telephone number (703) 308-1738.

Khiem Nguyen

KHIEM NGUYEN

Nguyen/tnt
November 21, 1994

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